

Q: When you perform Dowel Bar Retrofit, what material is used to patch the joints? Is concrete just poured back in?

A: The material used to patch the slot cuts in a dowel bar retrofit should be an approved shrinkage compensating rapid set patching material listed in Iowa DOT Materials I.M. 491.20, Appendix B. For a list of approved products, refer to <https://maple.iowadot.gov/>.

Q: What is the typical minimum thickness for partial depth repairs that yield good results once completed?

A: When using concrete or other cementitious repair materials, the patch should be at least 2 inches thick to ensure there is sufficient mass to bond to the underlying substrate. Other products like polymers and epoxies may allow for a thinner application based on the manufacturer's recommendations.